



For Immediate Release
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**San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy to Honor
Asm. De La Torre for his work to create more open space in poor communities in
California**

Bellflower, Calif. – San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy to honor Assemblymember Hector De La Torre (D-South Gate) for the passage of AB 521 which will fast track the development of recreational parks and open space on utility rights-of-way at an affordable rate. Governor Schwarzenegger signed AB 521.

WHO: San Gabriel & Lower Los Angeles Rivers and Mountains Conservancy,
Executive Director Belinda Faustinos
Board Chair, Frank Colonna and RMC Board.

WHAT: Honor Assemblymember De La Torre at the RMC's 10th Anniversary
Board Meeting.

WHY: The San Gabriel and Lower Los Angeles and Rivers and Mountains Conservancy's (RMC), mission is to preserve open space and habitat in order to provide for low-impact recreation, wildlife habitat restoration, and watershed improvements within its jurisdiction. For over 10 years since its creation (1999), the RMC has provided bond funded grants throughout Los Angeles and Orange County, including the Southeast Communities represented by the 50th Assembly District.

WHEN: Monday, November 23, 2009 at 3 p.m.

WHERE: City of Bellflower, City Hall, Green Room
16600 Civic Center Drive
Bellflower, CA 90706

Background: Urban communities, across California, lack the public health, environmental, economic, and social benefits that come with having ready access to parks and open space. In these cities, only one out of four residents lives within 440 yards of a neighborhood playground or park facility. There are even fewer parks and open spaces in low-income neighborhoods where a third of an acre, the equivalent of 30 yards on a football field, is shared by 1,000 people.

AB 521 was supported by the City of Bellflower, The Trust for Public Land, the California Council of Land Trusts, the California League of Conservation Voters, Green California, Sierra Club, and Southern California Edison.

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